

Mueller, who was killed in action on October 26 during military operations in Afghanistan.

In 2002, a graduate of Little Chute High School, Sergeant Mueller was a member of the U.S. Army's 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, stationed in Savannah, Georgia.

And after serving 2 years in Korea, Sergeant Mueller became crew chief on an elite Chinook helicopter unit, known as the Night Stalkers, whose duties included inserting and taking out our troops from dangerous territory.

That Sergeant Mueller was several times decorated is not surprising to those who knew him. In high school, he was a member of the Mustangs' football team and wrestling teams. He was a regular participant. He was the king of homecoming in 2001.

That he was entrusted with the highly technical responsibilities of a crew chief is not surprising either. Nick is remembered by his family and friends for his fearless willingness to accept any challenge.

On behalf of the people of northeast Wisconsin, we offer our deepest condolences to his mother and father, Sharon and Larry Mueller, and his brother, John.

Sergeant Nick Mueller shall not be forgotten.

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mrs. HALVORSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. HALVORSON. Madam Speaker, I stand today in support of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. I stand today to recognize the thousands of individuals who have bravely fought this tragic disease. I stand today to also remember those who didn't make it.

There isn't a single person who doesn't know someone affected by this disease. I will always remember my mom's fight with breast cancer. I will never forget the doctor's visits and the medication, or my parents' struggles fighting doctor's payments when she was just trying to fight the cancer. Today, there are so many just like her who must suffer through this alone and without the resources necessary to win their battle.

It is up to us to be there for them and to support them through their tough times and it is up to us to encourage early screenings and to fight for better care. This month will come and go, but we must always recognize those afflicted with this disease and help them fight for what they need and for their lives.

PATRIOT ACT

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, in just the last few weeks, we have seen the

FBI and local law enforcement thwart five separate terrorist attacks. Clearly, radical Islamic terrorists continue to be a serious threat to the safety and security of all Americans.

In one FBI sting, Hosam Smadi thought he was about to blow up a 60-story office tower in Dallas. When asked whether he wanted ear plugs, he declined saying that he wanted to hear the blast clearly. Not only was Smadi willing to take thousands of lives, he wanted to revel in the experience. To facilitate the arrest of Smadi and other terrorists, the FBI used surveillance enabled by the PATRIOT Act.

By the end of this year, three key surveillance provisions in the act will expire. If we want to ensure that the FBI is able to continue their critical mission of identifying and arresting terrorists before they strike, we must not take away these critical tools. Our law enforcement agencies are working hard to keep America safe, and the PATRIOT Act ensures that they are able to track and follow individuals who are working toward violent ends.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. ARCURI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, as we approach election day for many local and State elections across the country, I want to make certain that the issue of campaign finance reform is at the forefront of discussion on creating a cleaner and more accessible election system in this country. There is no doubt that our democracy here in the United States is the greatest in the world, but we need to make sure that we allow access to as many qualified citizens as possible to engage in this process.

Why should a candidate be judged on the quality of a television advertisement over the quality of their ideas to fix our Nation's economy or improve the flow of traffic through local town squares? Candidates should be elected based on merit, not on money.

In the last decade, an alliance of advocacy groups, the Fair Elections Coalitions, has been working to implement a public campaign finance system on the State level known as Clean Money, Clean Elections. Across the country, candidates have been elected based on this system, and I would hope that we can pass legislation here in Congress to reform the system fairly across the board.

As Members of Congress, we need to remember that we serve the people of this country based on issues, not dollars, and I would ask that my colleagues join me in a push toward campaign finance reform.

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Mr. CONAWAY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, it seems that the Obama administration has set its sights on yet another target of political dissension: the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber represents roughly 3 million businesses with more than 96 percent of its membership being comprised of small businesses of 100 employees or fewer, the very backbone of our economy.

The Chamber has expressed concern regarding various proposals, such as the regulation of greenhouse gases and a government-run health care plan, policies that, if enacted, would ultimately devastate small businesses across this country.

It appears that the Obama administration is actively circumventing the masses of members within the Chamber to try to craft side deals with a few individuals in an effort to persuade defections. It seems that it is all part of a grand strategy to marginalize a well-respected organization with legitimate policy differences.

When Barack Obama promised a new kind of politics, I don't believe a divide-and-conquer strategy based simply on disagreement with the American people is what the American people had in mind.

I encourage the Chamber to continue to stand up against any business policies, regardless of political pressure. The millions of businesses, many of which are located in my State and congressional district, will be grateful for their resolve.

ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ADDICTION

(Mr. KENNEDY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, we have an elephant in the middle of our Nation's living room. That is alcoholism and drug addiction. This country's medical system does not deal with one of the major issues in this country, and that is alcoholism and drug addiction and depression and mental illness.

If we are going to do something about our health care system, we better incorporate treatment for these illnesses in order to make sure we prevent other diseases. If you have one of these illnesses, your cost for health care goes up four times. Seventy percent of the trauma care in this country is as a result of drug addiction and alcoholism. Car accidents, stabbings, gun shots, domestic violence, many of the things you see in our emergency rooms is as a result of drugs and alcohol.

That is why we need to make sure that we have early intervention and screening and treatment reimbursement in our health care bill.

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

(Mr. BUCHANAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)